



The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Technology Assessment Division recently recognized the St. Tammany School Board's efforts to incorporate energy efficiency in their schools by presenting them with the esteemed Stewardship Award. Appearing in order from left to right representing the School Board was: Pat Flanagan, Cathy Serpas, John Swang, Barry Pichon, and DNR's Paula Rideway.



Gayle Sloan
Superintendent
W. L. "Trey" Folse, III
Deputy Superintendent

District	Board Members
1	Neal M. Hennegan, President
15	Mary K. Bellisario, Vice President
2	Elizabeth B. Heintz
3	Michael J. Dirmann
4	Stephen J. "Jack" Loup, III
5	Charles T. Harrell
6	Donald J. Villere
7	Sorola "Jody" Palmer
8	Daniel G. Zechenelly
9	Carmen H. Johnson
10	Ronald "Ron" Bettencourt
11	Robert R. "Bob" Womack
12	James "Ronnie" Panks, Sr.
13	John C. Lamarque
14	Ray A. Alfred

September 11, 2008

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Tammany Parish Public School System Instructional Technology Center Earns the ENERGY STAR for Turning Energy Use into Savings

(Covington, LA) The St. Tammany Parish Public School System's Instructional Technology Center building has earned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) prestigious ENERGY STAR Label, the national symbol for protecting the environment through superior energy performance. The Instructional Technology Center is the first and only school district facility in the State of Louisiana to receive the recognition.

The ENERGY STAR Label identifies the Instructional Technology Center as one of the most energy efficient buildings in the nation. The Instructional Technology Center is using about 35 percent less energy than average buildings, while still providing quality service and comfort to

occupants. The St. Tammany Parish Public School System lowered their energy costs for the Instructional Technology Center by 38.4 percent through cost-effective improvements to their building and avoided energy costs totaling more than \$30,000. The Instructional Technology Center joins approximately 5,400 buildings nationwide that have earned the ENERGY STAR Label.

“St. Tammany Parish Public School System is pleased to accept the EPA’s ENERGY STAR Label designation for the Technology Center,” said Gayle Sloan, Schools Superintendent. “We are committed to creating an energy efficient environment. Through this project we have lowered our overall energy costs and this benefits our entire School System.”

Organizations earn the ENERGY STAR Label by using EPA’s national energy performance rating system to generate energy-efficiency ratings for their buildings, on a scale of 1 to 100 relative to similar buildings across the country. The rating system is available for office buildings, schools, dormitories, hotels, hospitals, and grocery stores, among other commercial buildings.

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The St. Tammany Parish School Board implemented an Energy Management Program in December 2007, which helped the Instructional Technology Center to earn the ENERGY STAR Label. The district-wide program emphasizes “no cost / low cost” energy saving strategies and includes the following actions:

- raising awareness through employee training
- turning off lights during unoccupied times in all rooms
- turning off electronic equipment such as computers, monitors, scanners, and copiers, etc. when not in use
- adjusting cooling and heating thermostats to comfortable settings that promote working and learning conditions
- turning off cooling and heating systems when not in use
- optimizing the maintenance of all electrical equipment to ensure efficient performance
- installing energy management control systems

The St. Tammany Parish Public School System also is the first and only school district in the State of Louisiana to receive the ENERGY STAR Leaders Award for 10% Improvement in energy usage district-wide. As the EPA notes regarding the district’s Leaders Award, “Owning a building that achieves top energy performance is a sign of good management; owning a portfolio of buildings that achieve continuous improvement in energy performance demonstrates superior management and environmental leadership.” Only 41 K-12 School Districts in the entire nation have earned the Leaders recognition.

During the 2007-2008 fiscal year, the St. Tammany Parish School Board’s Energy Management Program reduced energy usage by 15.5% which translates into an energy cost avoidance of \$1,595,337.

ENERGY STAR is a government-backed program that helps businesses and consumers protect the environment through superior energy efficiency.

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